

# The Oregon Statesman

"No Favor Sways Us; No Fear Shall Awe"  
From First Statesman, March 28, 1851

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## What Happened at Champoege

At Champoege was decided by vote of freemen the question of sovereignty over the vast nebulous land known as Oregon. The Indian fighters and hardy and bold pioneers who slept in graves dug in the "dark and bloody ground" of Kentucky, or where Indians ambushed parties floating down the Ohio or in rude little burial grounds beside pioneer settlements, sent on their sons and daughters, trained in the school of hardship and danger, to a contest of which the beginning of the final chapter was written when the settlers at Champoege voted the Oregon country into the Union in 1843.

The above from the Albany Democrat-Herald is better literature than it is history. For Champoege did not decide the question of sovereignty over the "vast nebulous land known as Oregon". The settlers at Champoege may hardly be said to have voted the Oregon country into the Union in 1843.

What the Champoege meeting accomplished in 1843 was to form a provisional government. It was local in origin and temporary in character. It embraced those who were subjects of Great Britain and citizens of the United States. On the express understanding that recognizing the new government did not interfere with the loyalties of the individual citizens, or their obligations to the Hudson's Bay company, Dr. John McLoughlin approved of the establishment of the new government but not till 1845. The oath which was signed by the men chosen to officiate at the Champoege meeting pledged fealty to the laws of this provisional government, and not to the United States. The oath taken by Gov. Abernethy, the first governor, expressly stipulated that the individual citizens continued in the same citizenship as before. Prof. S. B. Laughlin of Willamette university has been conducting research in the archives at the state house and is convinced that the Champoege meeting did not establish an "American" government in the sense of a United States government, that it was distinctly provisional in character.

It is true that in the preamble of the laws adopted on May 5th, following report of the legislative committee, the language read: "We the people of Oregon Territory . . . agree to adopt the following laws and regulations, until such time as the United States of America extend their jurisdiction over us." This implied that they expected and desired the country to come under the jurisdiction of the United States.

It was not until 1846 that the question of sovereignty of Oregon country was settled between Great Britain and the United States. Oregon was considered as extending clear to 54 degrees, 40 minutes north latitude; and the final settlement was 49 degrees. It was not until 1849 that the United States actually extended its authority when General Joe Lane arrived as the first territorial governor.

The Champoege meeting was important and the fact that it was organized and controlled by the American element was significant. But it did not do all that many ill-informed writers and speakers claim for it.

## Busy Work for Legislature

THE Oregonian gives the proposed special session of the legislature a bone to chew on when it suggests that the legislature begin with a revision of the salary schedules of the thirty-six counties of Oregon. If it began on this, there it would end, if the session be limited to the few days' time which the governor contemplates. The last legislature couldn't even get up nerve to set the salaries of circuit judges back to the 1928 level. So far as the salary schedule of the county officers in Oregon is concerned, there is no schedule. It has been a race to the trough. As a result some counties have quite fancy salaries as such, while others, Marion and Yamhill for example, trudge along in horse and buggy fashion. The salary of the Yamhill county judge for example was last fixed in 1872.

The special session of the legislature is apparently contemplated so as to deliver the taxing power over to a state commission. Just what the commission would know about the requirements of the 2700 taxing units is hard to conceive. But the times are hard and SOMETHING MUST BE DONE, even if what is done is the wrong thing. We must have a political victory if nothing else.

There is enough steam up for lower taxes in home communities to get very sizeable reductions. If we can't help ourselves what can we expect out of some higher-up commission. We don't favor this special session of the legislature because it is just expected to jam through some frankly experimental legislation which will soon gall under the collar. The cost of this special session, the increased red tape of more state bureaus would wipe out any saving which is largely theoretical anyway.

If we had an official state bureau of audit, that would not cost any more than at present, because units of government are hiring auditors now. And it could be a means for setting up sound fiscal policies in local affairs. Even this can wait till the regular session of the legislature.

It must be tough to be rich. Besides the cost of such luxuries as divorce, there is the occasional alienation suit to consider. A woman in Portland claims her ex-husband was worth \$200,000 and wants that much from a rich mamma who she says snared him for daughter. As the man involved was a Chicago stock-broker, we think the going rates on such are greatly reduced at the present time. They ought to be cheap as ex-Austrian princes.

The Dane and German who flew home across the Atlantic are on their way home. The two Hungarians who are doing an aerial homecoming will also come back if they make the trip safely. None of them wants to stay in the old home town, even if they risk their lives trying to get there.

Hat pins are coming back, say the fashion prognosticators. The elderly men who ride elevators will all remember hatpins which were the dangerous weapons of pre-war days.

## LABISH MISSION CONFERENCE HELD

CLEAR LAKE, July 15.—The first quarterly conference of the year for the Labish Mission was held Thursday evening at the Clear Lake Evangelical church. Rev. C. P. Gates, presiding elder for the Salem district presided over the business meeting and

gave a short address. This being the first meeting of the conference year, finances were discussed and each of the three churches have set their quota for pastor's salary the same as it was last year. Sunday morning Rev. Gates preached at the Clear Lake church, and assisted by the pastor, Rev. H. R. Schenerman, conducted communion service. About three-quarters of a pound of chewing gum is the annual quota of the average American, the bureau of census finds.

## Handling the Baby

By G. C. DAUER, M.D.  
Madison County Health Dept.  
A small baby is always an object of considerable attention, and the more attention it attracts the prouder the parents become. On the other hand when the infant does not attract attention the parents are apt to feel slighted. More of the latter is to be desired than the former.

A very small baby does not need much attention from Dr. G. C. Dauer any other persons except the parents or those of the household who care for it, and the doctor. Babies have very sensitive nervous systems and often resent handling except by those in the household. Promiscuous manipulation is bad for any baby. Strangers should not pick them up and this should apply to relatives not in the home.

Resistance Poor  
A baby has poor resistance against infections. The more people that fondle and handle a baby, the more chance there is to give the baby colds or equally dangerous infections. The baby's chances of getting a cold from its parents are great enough without exposing it to others. If this is a good rule to follow in a hospital it should be an equally good one for the home.

All that has been said about strange adults applies with greater force to the cousins and neighbors' children. Children are more subject to colds so why expose the baby to the chance of picking up one from them.

Admire From Distance  
Babies can be admired from a little distance just as easily as when in one's arms; the baby too would admire its admirers more at a safe distance. Just one more thing never interrupt a baby's sleep to show it off to someone.

How many parents have been provoked at other parents because the latter did not make a fuss over the former's baby? Don't expect others to show an excessive amount of affection for your child—they may have their own on whom they show affection, and rightfully so, they can't see all the brilliant qualities of yours.

What health problems have you? If the above article raises any question in your mind, write the question out and send it either to The Statesman or the county department of health. The answer will appear in this column. Name should be signed, but will not be used in the paper.

## New Views

Yesterday Statesman reporters asked this question: "How much time do you average each day listening to a radio program? Do you spend as much time on them as you do reading your newspapers?"

Harry Carson, druggist: As I don't get home from the store till 10 o'clock, I listen only a few minutes, if at all. It's about half-and-half with the radio and the newspapers.

Mrs. Mabelle Ruthford, passenger department, Oregon Electric: "I listen in the morning, at lunch time and at night—10 hours or so a day. That would be about ten times as much as I read newspapers, but I get news over the radio."

Mrs. A. H. Berger, housewife: "Well, I have a family and do not have much time to listen to the radio. We listen to a 6 o'clock program every morning and then hear part of the evening program. I only read the Statesman, but I read all of it and guess I spend more time reading than I do listening to the radio."

Mrs. T. S. Roberts, housewife: "Depends on what the program is. We spend a good bit of time listening to good programs, but I believe we spend more time reading the newspapers."

Mrs. Gail Geer, registered nurse: "When I am at home I listen to the radio more than I read a newspaper because I do my work to the accompaniment of the radio."

W. R. Kane, lunch counter operator: "I believe I listen to the radio more. When I'm home at night I read the paper and listen to the radio which my wife enjoys especially. The advertising on the radio cuts no ice with me."

Kenneth Bayne, lawyer, farmer: "I'll tell you—the newspaper. We have no radio."

U. G. Boyer, county clerk: "The newspaper, much more. Many days I don't listen to the radio at all. I regard the radio as largely advertising; the newspaper provides reliable, valuable news."

## Daily Thought

"Say not the days are evil—who's to blame? And fold the hands and acquiesce—oh, shame! Stand up, speak out, and bravely, in God's Name. If matter's not how deep entrenched the wrong, How hard the battle goes, the day how long. Fight on! faint not, tomorrow comes the song!" —Malthie D. Babcock.

IN HOSPITAL  
BETHEL, July 15.—Mrs. Helen Evans is a patient at the Salem General hospital. She has been a resident of the Bethel district for more than a generation, and is respected and beloved by all. Her neighbors wish for her a speedy recovery.

## HERE'S HOW By EDSON

HERE'S HOW  
KHS CLOTHES ARE WORTH \$200,000

GOD BLESS HIM WHO HAS A GOOD SUIT  
KHS CLOTHES ARE WORTH \$200,000  
GOD BLESS HIM WHO HAS A GOOD SUIT

Tomorrow: "Santa had Better bot a Plane"

## BITS for BREAKFAST

By R. J. HENDRICKS

Free speech and free press: The constitutional convention in 1857, in the old wooden court house in Salem, was considering in committee of the whole the proposed bill of rights.

Section 3, reading as follows, had been adopted: "Freedom of Speech. No law shall be passed restraining the free expression of opinion, or restricting the right to speak, write or print freely on any subject whatever; but every person shall be responsible for the abuse of this right."

Section 10 came under consideration, originally proposed to read: "In all prosecutions for libel, the truth of the matter alleged to be libelous may be given in justification." Matthew P. Deady, president, afterwards United States judge, moved to amend, after some previous amendments had been offered—Deady's proposal being: "Provided, that the matter alleged to be libelous relates to the public character of the complainant."

The news columns of the Portland Oregonian had the following on the discussion that followed: "In support of the resolution he (Deady) animadverted on the late vigilance committee of San Francisco, and contended that Mr. King, the editor of the Bulletin, had no right to speak of Mr. Casey in the manner he had done. It was a malicious use of the power that had been assumed by him as an editor of a public newspaper. He said it was the cause of the late vigilance committee."

Continuing, the news report said: "Mr. Dyer (Thomas J. Dyer, editor of the Oregonian and member of the convention,) thought the previous sections covered all the ground. He did not approve of the attempt to muzzle the press. If the amendment is adopted, a man may be put up for office who is the veriest villain and a disgrace to the community, yet no public newspaper could denounce him. He contended that at the time the attack was made upon Casey in the Bulletin he (Casey) was a public man, absolutely controlling the ballot boxes of San Francisco, a former convict from the penitentiary."

"He contended that an editor of a public newspaper was a guardian of the public interests. He then referred to the previous section of the bill (section 3) which declared every one to have the right to print, etc., he being responsible for what was printed and published; it was a principle

## SEA CAPTAIN TELLS HOW HE PREVENTED BALDNESS

Hair Was Thin on Top and Full of Dandruff. Had Become Very Gray at Temples, Too  
A SIMPLE HOME TONIC ON SCALP WORKED LIKE MAGIC

Captain Hunt Looks at Least 15 Years Younger, His Friends Say  
"I've got a thick, good looking, young appearing head of hair, in spite of my years, thanks to this marvelous tonic called Lea's," declared Captain Willard E. Hunt, well known Sea Captain of Newburyport, Mass.  
"These old sea dogs around my home port marvel at my youthful appearance and a lot of the old gray-heads are wisely taking my advice and using Lea's Hair Tonic nowadays. My hair was thin and bad—I was getting bald—hair came out in handfuls, but no more. My scalp used to be covered with dandruff, but that's gone, too, and the gray hairs I had have all turned back to youthful color; it's not wonder folks say I'm looking fit."

## 'The Mystery of Geraldine' By Anthony ABBOT

Geraldine Foster, pretty young clerk in the office of Dr. Humphrey Maskell disappeared on Saturday. Three days later her roommate, Betty Canfield, notified Police Commissioner Thatcher Colt. She states that Geraldine phoned her prior to her disappearance, saying she wished she was dead. Harry Armstrong, the missing girl's fiancé, had not heard from her since Friday. Dr. Maskell says he returned to his office Saturday afternoon to find Geraldine gone. At the Foster apartment Colt learns from Betty that Geraldine had quarreled with the doctor. The commissioner finds an old-fashioned key in the pocket of Geraldine's coat, and part of a blackmail note, presumably in her handwriting, in the desk. Different ink than that in the apartment was used. It is learned that Betty quarreled with Geraldine, and that she was once engaged to Geraldine's brother, Bruce. Entering Dr. Maskell's home, Colt meets Maskell's chauffeur, muttering "Get me to talk? Never. But Geraldine was good to



"I then asked her, rather peremptorily, what she was looking for," said Doctor Maskell.

other state in the union, Iowa excepted."

The news report in the Oregonian added: "The debate was continued at great length." It is a pity that all of it could not have been reported and printed, or that this could not yet be done, according to a suggestion in this column of a few days ago; if that is still possible. Why? It would powerfully help in guiding our courts to a correct interpretation of the meaning of the men who framed our fundamental laws; to know what they meant by "freedom of speech."

But this much is certain: The committee of the whole reported, a few days later, recommending that the proposed section 10, with its proposed amendments, be stricken out entirely, and the convention agreed without a yea and nay vote. It was evidently unanimous, otherwise a record of the vote would have been called for. Thus the matter was left, as set out in section 8, quoted in the third paragraph of this article. That is what free speech and a free press mean in Oregon, as intended by the men who made the fundamental law. And that, for many other good reasons, is the way it should stand. Liberty, but not license. Freedom of speech, but responsibility for the abuse of that right.

And the constitutional convention substituted for section 10 of the bill of rights as originally proposed and variously amended the following language: "Justice to Be Open and Without Price. No court shall be secret, but justice shall be administered openly and without purchase, completely and without delay, and every man shall have remedy by due course of law for injury done him in person, property or reputation."

Thomas J. Dyer, standing almost alone against political foes in the constitutional convention, won his point. The press of Oregon, at even this late day, should build a monument to him.

"Mr. Dyer said that as soon as the state were formed in all probability a flood of political emigration would come into Oregon from California, and it would be strange if the newspaper press of the state should be debarred from pointing out some of these gentry. It was also strange that the whole judiciary should look hands together on the subject. When the newspapers spoke of any prominent official—and told the truth—it was invariably characterized as 'abuse.' He did not think this move was for anything else than to attempt to muzzle the press." (Mr. Kealey agreed with Dyer in his contentions.)

"Mr. Dyer was opposed to the irresponsible public press of the country. He characterized the press of Oregon as 'a running sore on the community.'" . . . "Mr. Dyer rose to inquire what the judiciary would say if he were to get up in his seat and state that the judiciary of the territory was a running sore on the community. He wished the gentleman (Mr. Deady) to particularize which of the press he alluded to. If he referred to the Statesman, Argus, Pacific Christian Advocate, or papers south of Portland, he did not feel called upon to defend them; but if he alluded to the Oregonian, Times, or Standard, he should most decidedly and emphatically deny the assertion."

"Mr. Dyer (sotto voce): 'As much those as any other.'"

"Mr. Dyer: He did not see why such unjust innuendoes should be made. He contended that the press of Oregon stands higher in the estimation and respect of the community than does the press of any

me." The doctor says there was a strange woman waiting outside his door when he returned Saturday.

CHAPTER VIII.  
There were no lights on in my office and I called out to Geraldine. No answer. Then, to my astonishment the strange woman pushed past me without asking my permission, and walked straight through this reception room, yonder. Of course I followed her, but before I reached her side, she had gone on farther and opened the rear door and looked into the little room at the back. That too, was empty. I then asked her, rather peremptorily, what she was looking for, but she burst into tears. I tried to detain her, but she rushed past me, out into the hallway. I followed her, quite startled at her extraordinary behavior, and then I noticed there was a taxicab before my door. She got into it and drove away."

"You didn't notice the license number on the taxi, I suppose?" asked Thatcher Colt.  
"Doctor Maskell had not. "And that," said Doctor Maskell soberly, "is all that I know about it. At first I was rather inclined to think that Geraldine had played me a rather shabby trick—recently she has not been herself; talked about having royal blood in her veins—but now, I confess, I don't know what to think."  
Identity Unknown  
"You have no idea who the woman was?"

"No."  
"Was she young or old?"  
"I had the impression that she was around middle-aged."  
"It could not have been Geraldine herself?"  
"Good Lord, no!"  
Thatcher Colt emptied the bottle from his pipe into an ash-tray and began refilling the bowl.  
"Queer," he said musingly. "That mysterious lady might have been just a wandering person with a disorderly mind. On the other hand, she may yet prove to be of supreme importance in this case."  
"Yes certainly," agreed Doctor Maskell.  
"I shall take a look through your establishment. Mind?" asked Thatcher Colt.  
"Do you think Geraldine is still here?" asked the doctor, opening wide his eyes.  
Without answering, the police commissioner rose and strode through the two rooms to the door at the back and through that into the rear room. I followed him, with Doctor Maskell marching at my heels. The sombre, brown eyes of Thatcher Colt were turning from one object to another in the clutter of stored material in that last room of the suite. Bending down, he fingered bottles and packages that lay loosely around and I noticed that over one large bottle he lingered. Stolidly the doctor watched as the commissioner removed the stout cork, and sniffed at the neck of the bottle. Then, still without a word, Thatcher Colt left the bottle and went on prowling into the consultation room. He halted suddenly before a closed door.  
(Continued on page 9)

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